

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY**

**Regular Meeting  
October 3, 2001 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Children & Families Commission Offices  
University of California Building  
550 E. Shaw, Suite 215  
Fresno, CA**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2**

**Recommendations:**

Approve Commission Minutes – September 5, 2001 Regular Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2001 MEETING**

**Present:** Chair Bob Waterston, Vice Chair Luisa Medina, Secretary/Treasurer Gary Carozza, Commissioners Marion Karian, Roseanne Lascano, Kathleen McIntyre, LeeAnn Parry, Executive Director Steve Gordon; County Counsel Juliana Gmur/Holley Perez

**Absent:** Oscar Sablan (excused)

Commissioner Waterston called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m., and a quorum was established.

**1. Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2001 meeting**

***Commissioner Carozza (Medina second) moved approval of the minutes as presented; approved unanimously.***

Roger Palomino, EOC Fresno County, requested clarification of his comments as follows: “I just want to make a statement that the minutes of the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting are a misrepresentation of my statements, and that rather than tie everyone up, I will address that matter individually through correspondence with each of the Commissioners.” Chair Waterston requested that Mr. Palomino continue with his comments.

Mr. Palomino: “In regard to school readiness, my statement was that it is a nebulous child development concept and that there could be other concepts that could be substituted. If it was a law enforcement packed agenda, they would probably be asking that every child become a law abiding citizen or be prepared to become president of the United States or something. It really doesn’t give guidance in regard to school readiness plan. Again, the plan is politically influenced. Rob Reiner and the Governor’s Secretary of Education are the ones developing the 20-year plan for education. Two things, one I think it is politically motivated, and two, there is no such thing as a 20-year plan for state government in Sacramento. The last thing I want to make on the point of school readiness is that my statement was to caution to the Commission. I know when there is money out there you have to go out on a limb and take a chance in order to get the money. If there were not money involved, you would not see the turn out that you see today at the meeting; I think that is what motivates us all. The thing is this, I think that when the Prop. 10 Commission starts to accept state money, they have to be cautious about the strings that come with that money. And when you start to see the local decision-making and local definition of issues and the allocation of resources because you are committed to a state plan, you might find yourself in a position that you do not welcome.

The last statement I made was in regard to the Institute, and why do we need the Institute in the strategic plan. One, there is need for an independent advocacy group that has the freedom to speak up without the fear of repercussions. And that fear exists in this community. If anybody says anything that doesn't fit in with other peoples thinking, there is always the perception that you're an adversary or that you're putting yourself out on a limb and there could be retribution. And I think that's very real. But then the real question is 'who walks the halls for children?' When children are involved, there is usually a secondary issue that gets people involved in legislation and policy making. We need, in Fresno County, and I think throughout the state, an independent group that can speak on behalf of infants and children without the fear of repercussions. And I think that the Prop. 10 Commission is closer to having that authority, to create that Institute that can have an advocacy arm to it that would be able to function as a free and independent advocate for infants and children. And then the last point is, the whole issue with the Institution part, about leveraging, planning, coordination and integration of effort, and I would just ask you as you consider the recommendations for funding today, is all of that in those recommendations?"

By consensus, his clarifications were accepted.

## 2. Funding Recommendations on RFP 01-C

Director Gordon presented a recap of the RFP 01-C grant application process. Staff recommended that two of the 29 proposals be combined (Clovis Even Start and CUS-Fresno Foundation/Southeast Asian Home Visitation), with both proposers agreeing to a joint project. Staff therefore recommends funding 22 proposals, for a total of \$6,621,691, as follows:

| <b>Name of Agency</b>                       | <b>Service Area</b> | <b>Amount</b>      | <b>Years</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| American Lung Association                   | East / West         | \$200,000          | 2            |
| Clovis Even Start / CSU-Fresno Foundation   | Metro               | \$500,000          | 3            |
| California State University, Workforce Con. | Metro               | \$148,175          | 1            |
| Cal-SAFE                                    | West / Metro        | \$317,151          | 3            |
| Central Unified School District             | West / Metro        | \$465,460          | 3            |
| Centro La Familia – CAPACITY                | Metro               | \$ 50,000          | 1            |
| EOC – San Luis Obispo County                | East / West         | \$411,231          | 2            |
| Fancher Creek Elementary                    | Metro               | \$323,500          | 3            |
| Fresno Center for New Americans             | Metro               | \$ 50,000          | 1            |
| Fresno County HSS, Community Health         | Countywide          | \$500,000          | 3            |
| Fresno County HSS, MCAH                     | Countywide          | \$500,000          | 3            |
| Fresno County Office of Education           | East / West         | \$499,250          | 3            |
| Fresno Superior Court                       | Metro               | \$ 60,216          | 1            |
| Fresno Unified School District              | Metro               | \$240,000          | 3            |
| Kings Canyon USD                            | East                | \$256,722          | 3            |
| Parlier Unified School District             | East                | \$344,191          | 3            |
| Raisin City School District                 | West                | \$376,496          | 3            |
| Selma Unified School District               | East                | \$184,301          | 3            |
| The Living Room                             | Metro               | \$ 50,000          | 1            |
| Valley Children's Hospital                  | Metro               | \$150,000          | 2            |
| West Fresno Crises Center                   | West                | \$494,999          | 3            |
| West Hills Community College                | West                | <u>\$499,999</u>   | 3            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                |                     | <b>\$6,621,691</b> |              |

In addition, there were two proposals that were considered for funding (Radio Bilingue and California Health Collaborative) that are not recommended for funding at this time because staff asks that they be considered "continuing providers". These two agencies are currently under contract to provide services to the other agencies and service providers funded by Prop. 10, meaning that Radio Bilingue ("RB") and California Health Collaborative ("CHC") are working with all Commission grantees which is the basis for their current funding. Based on the Commission's decision today, potentially 23 additional

agencies will be added to the providers that RB and CHC will work with. Additional funding would be based on the additional "technical assistance" RB and CHC will provide to this additional group of service providers. Staff proposes that new/additional contracts be negotiated with Radio Bilingue and the California Health Collaborative based on what we fund today. Upon Commissioner Medina's question, Commissioners were assured that staff will return with specific dollar recommendations for these two agencies before contract signing.

RFP 01-C provided for approximately \$5 million in funding. Since so many very good proposals were submitted, particularly from the rural county areas and in areas not previously funded (dental/mental health), the recommendation is that the \$5 million be exceeded by \$1.6 million to fund the recommended 22 proposals. The difference will be covered from excess funds encumbered from 2000-01 budget set-aside for leveraging with state Department of Education money (Commission RFP 01-D). Because there were fewer state grants awarded to Fresno County than anticipated, anticipated expenditures under RFP 01-D total approximately \$1.6 if all the proposals received are funded. From the excess \$2.4 million from RFP 01-D, staff recommends that \$1.6 million be moved to RFP 01-C to fund the 22 proposals as recommended.

County Counsel Gmar asked for conflict of interest disclosures. The following items were pulled from the consent item for conflict of interest disclosures:

Central Unified – Marion Karian  
Fresno County HSS, Community Health – Gary Carozza  
Fresno County HSS, MCAH – Gary Carozza  
The Living Room – Gary Carozza

Additionally, Commissioner Medina asked for the following proposals to be pulled from the consent items:

CSU-Fresno Foundation – Workforce Connection  
Centro La Familia (Capacity)  
Fresno Center for New Americans (Planning)  
The Living Room (Planning)

Commissioner Carozza asked for the following proposal to be pulled from the consent items:

EOC – San Luis Obispo County of Fresno

***Commissioner Carozza moved (Karian second) that the remaining consent items be approved as recommended.***

**Discussion:** Commissioner Medina commented that staff recommendations for funding are heavy on the public entity side this round. She met with staff before the meeting to discuss concerns and talk about capacity building and technical assistance plans and activities for the future. She would like the Commission to re-look at the strategic plan to incorporate these issues. Identifying leveraging of dollars and sustainability are other issues she finds lacking in most of the proposals; the Commission needs to set the stage for long-term investment, sustainability, and integration of systems and services.

Chair Waterston commented that it is the Commission's responsibility to both write the RFPs and instruct the readers on exactly what the Commission is looking for.

Commissioner Carozza said he had these same questions about many of the proposals funded in the first round. Commissioner Karian also raised the question of supplanting of funding; she feels that from the information provided by the proposers, it is difficult to determine where supplanting might be occurring. Carozza stated that this is an important question that staff and the Commission should be asking of all proposers.

Commissioner Parry suggested that we keep in mind the need for establishing committees to deal with these issues, committees composed of a Commissioner as chair plus other interested parties, and that

she had identified at least six issues that should be included in staff recommendations. Executive Director Gordon clarified that the committees would suggest policy for the Commission to adopt, which policies would then guide both the Commission and Commission staff. Commissioner Carozza suggested that the committee concept be referred to staff to prepare as a future agenda item with suggestions for committee make-up, etc. By consensus, the Commission agreed.

Jeanette Hill, West McKinley Christian Preschool, commented she found some of the agencies they currently collaborate with very resistant to providing documentation of the collaboration to include with their proposal. She also wondered about the equity of representation of private vs. public organizations in funding recommendations. Commissioner McIntyre stated she felt the Commission needs to define "collaboration". Commissioner Medina added her concern about consumer and parent involvement. Commissioner Carozza asked staff to review prior minutes on these issues to see if there was any adopted policy or direction (supplanting, collaboration, leveraging, etc.).

Executive Gordon summarized the discussion that the proposals being voted on today is really a continuation of the previous recommendations approved earlier this year, and the combination of these two rounds of funding comprise a reflection of the strategic plan as adopted in June, 2000. From this point forward, a new "funding cycle" will emerge driven by the strategic plan as revised, including all the issues being discussed today.

***Motion approved unanimously.***

The items pulled from the consent agenda were discussed:

**California State University-Fresno Foundation – Workforce Connection:** Commissioner Medina stated she had difficulty with this proposal, since the abstract did not directly address the number of children to be served. She questioned why the partners identified could not contribute some funding, with Commission funds utilized to fill any gaps that emerge. Carol Davies, Workforce Connection, the proposal developer, stated she has been watching and tracking children and parents as they come in to the center. This proposal is directed at those potential customers coming to the center for the first time who are not yet in the "system" and is intended to provide for the development of a children's room, supplying materials, and start up costs for the first year so tracking can be done. Joe Oliveras, Workforce Connection, added that the customers targeted for this proposal were those that were not yet within the WIA system, so there were no dollars available at that initial visit for childcare.

***Commissioner Carozza moved (Lascano second) the Workforce Connection recommendation be approved as recommended. Motion carried (vote 5-2, Medina & McIntyre dissenting).***

**Central Unified School District: Commissioner Medina moved approval as recommended (Carozza second). Motion carried, 6-0 (Karian abstaining).**

Commissioner Medina proposed discussing **Centro La Familia (Capacity Grant), Fresno Center for New Americans (Planning Grant) and The Living Room (Planning Grant)** together. Commissioner Medina stated that staff identified additional needs for planning prior to implementation in these proposals and recommended funding for planning, each for \$50,000. She questioned whether there would be a "pot at the end of the rainbow" for these proposers, as she would hate for them to do the planning and capacity building and then have to submit another competitive proposal and possibly not be funded; she would like the Commission to revisit funding for them at the end of the planning cycle, based on the proposals submitted for this round of funding.

Program Operations Analyst Kendra Rogers responded as to whether the Commission wanted to approve the \$50,000 planning/capacity grants proposed, and as the results of the planning, additional funding be recommended based on the currently submitted proposal. Commissioner Medina said that would be her motion.

***Commissioner Medina moved to proceed with approval of the planning and capacity grants for Centro La Familia and Fresno Center for New Americans, as recommended by staff, and to bring these agencies back prior to the conclusion of the planning grant for specific allocation as requested under the current funding proposal (Parry second).***

**Discussion:** Commissioner Carozza asked about the money remaining from the leveraging proposal, and what the total of these three proposals would do to those funds should the planning/capacity grants justify additional funding. Executive Director Gordon responded additional funding would be within the funds remaining.

Vicki Hoyle, EOC Fresno, stated that her understanding in the process of applying for a grant is to apply for either planning or implementation. She questioned how the Commission would determine if the capacity existed to implement a program. Commissioner Medina commented that they submitted proposals for implementation grants for major service category and through the review process, staff has identified issues that need clarification.

Hugo Morales, Radio Bilingue, commented that when we talk of building "institutions" we have to support these kinds of smaller organizations. As leveraging and collaboration criteria are evaluated, he cautioned the Commission to be careful. When small institutions are involved, requiring high level collaboration and leveraging might be a way to eliminate such proposals. Commissioner Carozza responded that he hoped the Commission will look at leveraging, collaboration, sustainability, outreach, and capacity building, establish criteria to allow for those organizations that have just started with no "relationship" with the community but that can reach populations that otherwise would not be reached, as well as recognizing those organizations that have been around a long time, are well established and have a much different relationship with the community. He also does not want the reverse to occur, where public agencies are ignored or overlooked, because they may be the only source of leveraged dollars.

***Motion approved unanimously.***

***Commissioner Medina moved to proceed with approval of the planning and capacity grants for The Living Room, as recommended by staff, and to bring these agencies back prior to the conclusion of the planning grant for specific allocation as requested under the current funding proposal (Parry second).***

**Public Comment:** Julio Mastro, Executive Director, The Living Room, offered to answer any questions regarding his proposal. He reviewed the programs offered by The Living Room and their collaboration with California Endowment and University Medical Center, particularly programs targeted to children infected with or affected by HIV.

***Motion carried, 6-0 (Carozza abstaining).***

**EOC – San Luis Obispo County** – Commissioner Carozza asked for an explanation of the involvement of an agency outside of Fresno County. Director Gordon explained that EOC-San Luis Obispo County has the contract for migrant Head Start in the rural areas of Fresno County. Bill Castellanos, Division Director, Child & Family Services, explained that there are only 24 migrant Head Start programs nationwide, and San Luis Obispo County is one of those 24; there are five migrant Head Start programs in California. San Luis Obispo County contracts with a local agency to run the Head Start program, and serve approximately 425 children. The contract is through Madera County and they administer the program. Upon questioning, Inez Rodriguez, director for the Fresno programs, stated the contract is through Madera Community Action Agency and operate nine centers throughout the rural areas of Fresno County.

***Commissioner Carozza moved (Medina second) that the recommendation be approved; approved unanimously.***

***Commissioner Medina (Karian second) moved that Fresno County, Community Health and Fresno County, Material, Child and Adolescent Health recommendations be approved. Motion carried, 6-0 (Carozza abstaining).***

### **3. Appeals to Funding Recommendations on RFP 01-C**

Executive Director Gordon stated there was one agency that submitted an appeal, A.S.K. Ed. The staff recommendation is that the appeal not be approved and no funding be granted because they are an existing funded agency, funded through the first round for one year, and the proposal submitted is for an extension and continuation of the same program, not adding new programming. When the initial funding was requested, the staff recommendation was to fund them as a “high risk” program because they were without a significant track record as an agency, although the individual partners have many years of experience.

Ed Burke, a consultant and partner with A.S.K., Ed Consulting Group, stated they are currently receiving funding from Prop. 10 for their “Optimal Parenting Program”, a parent-nurturing program. The focus is on the rural areas, providing the service since March, 2001. They applied for the second round of funding, indicating that they feel it is not a proposal to continue the current program, but to expand in to additional areas. They requested to participate in the interview process to clarify that their proposal was not merely a continuation of the one-year funding received for the program, but to obtain second and third year funding to the rural area parents and expand to serve parents in the Fresno Metro area. He distributed some statistical information on the scope of their current program.

A.S.K., Ed. disagrees with the staff interpretation that there is no way to evaluate performance after only one quarter (March – current) of work. Status reports have been submitted, both as required in their contract and additionally in conjunction with the current RFP review, and they are currently on track to meet and exceed the goals, objectives and proposed outcomes of their first round proposal. He stated A.S.K., Ed. feels they are being “held hostage” because they are a fairly new agency and have only operated for one quarter under Prop. 10 funds, while others, such as Valley Children’s Hospital, Fresno County Office of Education, Fresno Unified School District and Clovis Unified School District which also received funding in the first round and are recommended for funding in the second round. He described A.S.K., Ed. as a private, minority partnership firm that has its’ roots in the community and in working with community based programs and have established a number of Memoranda of Understanding and contractual agreements with most of the service providers that work for children and families in the county. They currently collaborate with all the major entities in the county and have signed agreements indicating how the program will be sustained after they have completed their program, through training local area staff to continue program implementation. They feel there will be a gap in the service needs if they do not receive additional funding at this time.

Alice Juarez, A.S.K., Ed. consultant and partner, circulated copies of the “Optimal Parent Program” curriculum book, their child development, parent-nurturing program, which is available in both English and Spanish. She emphasized their collaborative efforts, particularly with Migrant Head Start. They are a parent-nurturing program, which encourages education and support for parents, including child development (physical, emotional, cognitive, and social development), ages and stages.

Chair Waterston asked staff whether the newness of the program was the only reason to deny funding. Director Gordon responded that it was partly a timing issue. Waterston asked about contracts for service providers that cover more than one year, if the contracts can be terminated. Director Gordon stated all contracts are performance contracts and can be terminated if performance standards are not met. He also stated that in the case of A.S.K., Ed., sustainability is an issue in that it appears Commission funds are the only source of funds for this program. Gordon stated that, with the first round funding, staff envisioned working with A.S.K., Ed. over the course of the contract, evaluating their performance, and re-evaluating toward the end of the contract whether future funding would be warranted and appropriate. He also envisioned A.S.K., Ed. seeking other funding to augment

Commission funds as well as expand the program. Commissioner McIntyre asked if additional funding was not received from Prop. 10, what plans were in place to sustain the program. Burke stated a sustainability factor was built in to the program by working through local agencies in the rural areas, training staff to implement the parenting program in their own service area. Once A.S.K., Ed. completes their program delivery, local agencies' staff is left in place to continue providing the program. Commissioner Medina asked what the original sustainability plan had been. Burke replied that the one-year grant applied for was to provide the parenting program to the rural communities and provide the local agencies they work with the training to maintain a parent-nurturing program. Medina further asked how the current proposal request differed from the first proposal. Burke replied the target numbers were larger. Commissioner Parry asked about the expansion proposed, questioning if the expansion was not just in terms of longevity, who was going to staff the expansion, etc. Burke replied that staff would change because they utilize staff from local agencies in the communities they provide this program to, working through Memoranda of Understanding. Parry further asked about the self-evaluation tools being utilized to determine the quality of the program. Burke replied they do pre- and post-course survey of all parents enrolling in and/or completing the curriculum; they also provide information back to county services for those referrals from CPS and Court-mandated cases.

Executive Director Gordon suggested that this proposal be considered along the lines of the previous planning/capacity grants that the Commission approved, that there be "a pot at the end of the rainbow" of some sort, and staff bring back a recommendation for continued funding. Commissioner Carozza asked what the first year funding was; Burke replied it was approximately \$107,000.

***Commissioner Carozza moved (McIntyre second) that before the end of the current contract an evaluation be brought to the Commission and funding of the current program, at the same funding level, be considered for one additional year, and, if awarded, at the end of second contract, funding, at the same level, be considered for a third year. Motion approved unanimously.***

#### **4. Discuss and Approve Revisions to Strategic Plan**

Executive Director Gordon stated that when a draft revision of the Strategic Plan (Plan) was presented to the Commission at the last meeting, the Commission asked that public feedback and comment be solicited. Public comment was solicited by sending out over 500 letters from our mailing lists and announcements on the website. Feedback and comments were received from 16 agencies or individuals. All suggestions from Commissioners as well as many from the feedback were incorporated into the Plan. Gordon requested that the Commission approve the Plan as presented today to continue to move it forward in the process. He stated it would come back to this body for final approval, but it needs to move to the Board of Supervisors for review and comment (a public meeting), then come back for a public hearing with the Commission and final adoption, and then ultimately forwarded to the State Children and Families Commission.

**Public Comment:** Eloise Gilbert, Fresno County HSS, asked if, on the Acknowledgement page, those members of the Strategic Planning Committees could be listed; staff assured the Commission there would be an expanded listing to include all those involved with creating the Plan.

Cathy Barabe, West Hills College, implored the Commission to "think out of the box" and make provisions in the Plan to provide for building of childcare centers in each of the rural communities where facilities are lacking.

Vicki Hoyle, Fresno County EOC, asked why public input was asked for if it was not incorporated into the Plan. Director Gordon responded that although not all feedback was incorporated, quite a lot was.

Commissioner Carozza asked where we were in the process with leveraging dollars for the rural west side. Director Gordon responded that the leveraging RFP was on track, but West Hills did not submit a proposal because they did not feel there was enough allowed for capital expenditure. Gordon also

pointed out that if the Plan is approved as presented, there are no recommendations being made to “earmark” any of the \$10 million anticipated income for 2001-02. This is intended to allow the Commission the flexibility to develop strategies within scope of the Plan to cover any issues desired.

***Commissioner Lascano (Carozza second) moved to forward the draft as presented to the Board of Supervisors for review and comment; approved unanimously.***

## **5. Intent to Participate in School Readiness Programs Matching Funds and Request for Implementation Funds**

Director Gordon opened the discussion by stating that the Commission heard the presentation by Jane Henderson, the Executive Director of California Children and Families Commission in July on the School Readiness Program the State Commission is initiating. Staff recommends that the Commission sign a Letter of Intent to apply for the \$6.6 million available (over 4 years) to Fresno County for the School Readiness Program. The Fresno Commission's commitment to that would be matching funds, fifty cents on the dollar for the first year, and dollar for dollar for the remaining years. Because of the funding in the “school readiness” arena that the Commission has already done, Director Gordon proposes that Fresno County is ready to move ahead to Phase 1. Along with the \$6.6 million in funds to be matched, \$100,000 per year for planning and implementation in unmatched funds is available. An initial request for \$200,000 can be submitted, and Director Gordon requests the Commission sign the Letter of Intent and request the \$200,000 to begin implementation of the program. He envisions the \$200,000 will be used to hire a staff member who would have responsibility for coordinating the entire School Readiness Program within the county, including development of the on-going plan, coordinating that plan with the entire Fresno community.

Commissioner Medina asked for clarification on whether the “school readiness” definition and program would be one that would be designed locally. Gordon responded that although there are certain, general broad guidelines with the state program, the local Commission will be able to define and design the local program. Commissioner Carozza asked who will control the funds; Gordon responded they will be controlled locally upon receipt, with the Commission having voting authority to award, the same as the process used today.

**Public Comment:** Upon public questioning regarding strings attached to the funds, whether these funds could be used for capital expenditures, Director Gordon responded that the intent to target low performing elementary schools, based on API scores of 1-3, working in conjunction with those elementary community areas to implement pre-school programs. This is one portion of the overall philosophy of the continuum that education starts with conception and continues to death. Commissioner Parry cautioned the Commission that they would need to make sure that there were programs devised to address the gap where families with the youngest children have no connection with the schools, and there is no visible way for them to become connected. Director Gordon responded that he envisioned an organized, neighborhood involvement piece to the entire program, not just the school and child, but the entire surrounding community/neighborhood. Commissioner Carozza asked for assurance that there were not political strings associated with the funds from the State Commission as well as with the proposers programs.

***Commissioner Carozza moved (Medina second) that the Commission sign the Letter of Intent and direct staff to work with the inter-agency groups to magnify potential leveraging dollars in collaboration with those groups; approved unanimously.***

## **6. Hire an Investment Analyst**

Director Gordon reminded Commissioners of the discussion at the last meeting pertaining to forming our own investment policies and how we should go about doing that. In order to begin that process, staff recommends hiring an outside, independent investment analyst for the short-term to help us write investment policies and analyze the investment markets and vehicles available and make



recommendations for the Commission to move forward. Commissioner Carozza stated in addition to hiring an investment advisor, he would like our current investment plan analyzed in order to ensure the best return on our investment. He also stated he felt that this investment advisor would be barred from further participating with the Commission in actual investments. He stated he felt that between the current \$1-3 million investment with Wells Fargo and the policy adopted at the last meeting re: the \$6 million for a children's sustainability fund, sending a "letter of interest" stating the sums involved and requesting the costs involved to structure a plan for the Commission to 15-20 potential advisors would be appropriate. County Counsel Holley Perez stated that pursuant to the policy and procurement procedures already in place, she felt this could be a "Request for Quotation". She also stated that consultants, by definition, are covered under the conflict of interest policy, and they would probably also have to disclose.

***Carozza moved (McIntyre second):***

- 1) to approve the hiring of a short-term investment analyst to recommend investment policy, look at existing investment patterns, and the potential of long-term investments for sustainability; and***
- 2) this analyst be excluded from participating in any bidding to structure long-term investments.***

***Motion approved unanimously.***

## **7. Public Comment**

Cathy Barabe, West Hills College, asked if it would help the Commission to have representatives from the west Fresno rural communities come to talk to the Commission about the need for childcare facilities in their areas. Commissioner Carozza stated the Commission needs to hear what the cities and various interest groups in those areas are willing to provide, funding available that we could match up with, etc.

Eloise Gilbert, Fresno Co. HSS, asked about filling the vacancy that exists on the Commission, the status of filling it. Commissioner Medina stated it needed to be a manager of Community Health, Children & Family Services, Mental Health, Public Health Officer. Director Gordon stated that they had been waiting for Sal Montana's replacement to be named in the County for that Commissioner slot to be filled.

Maria Bustamante, Centro La Familia Child Abuse Prevention Program, thanked the Commission for their vote in approving the capacity grant for their agency.

Shirley Sanchez, West Fresno Crisis Center, also thanked the Commission for their vote on funding for their agency.

Commissioner Lascano announced that Sanger Unified opened a pre-school center this week that was funded with Prop. 10 funds.

**Adjournment:**

***Commissioner Carozza (Medina second) moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.***